

REMARKS

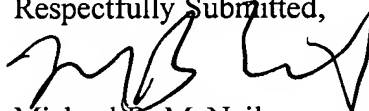
Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) over Gullett. Applicants respectfully disagree since Gullett fails to disclose, and the Office Action makes no mention of Applicants claimed metallic screen filter element mounted around the center support. There should be no dispute that a §102 rejection requires that a reference disclose exactly what an Applicant has claimed. In this case, Gullett does not. At best, Gullett could stand to support a §103 rejection, but it clearly can not anticipate subject matter it does not show or discuss. Applicants also take exception to the apparent characterization of the weld between the Gullett center support and its bowl as being Applicants claimed bowl attachment. Nevertheless, Applicants have amended the claims to make it clear that the attachments are allowed for rotatable attachment and detachment with regard to respective features of the claims. Therefore, since Gullett does not show the claimed metallic screen filter element, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected on the grounds of non-statutory double patenting over co-owned U.S. Patent 6,481,580 and 6,814,243. Again, Applicants respectfully disagree since the cited patents could not have claimed subject matter they did not disclose. In particular, Applicants claims require a metallic screened filter element. The cited references make no mention of this feature, and therefore those patents could never have supported claims of the type now pending in the present application. Because of this, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding double patenting rejections be withdrawn.

This application is believed to be in condition for allowance of claims 1-14. However, if the Examiner believes that some additional clarification would put this application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at (812) 333-5355 in order to hasten the prosecution this application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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